

SahuarO Weekly Update

"Where neighbors help neighbors build community."



Councilmember Steve Frate, Glendale Arizona

January 29, 2010

Overnight Freeway Closures.

Work to remove the outer portions of the Loop 101 interchange bridges at Union Hills Drive to prepare the bridge to be widened will require overnight freeway and ramp closures and restrictions on Union Hills Drive.

Northbound Loop 101

Friday, Jan. 29 - Saturday, Jan. 30
10 p.m. - 5 a.m.

Northbound Loop 101 will be CLOSED at Union Hills Drive overnight from Friday night, Jan. 29 until Saturday morning, Jan. 30 for bridge demolition work. Detour: Traffic will be detoured onto the interchange ramps.

Union Hills Drive

Friday, Jan. 29 - Sunday, Jan. 31
10 p.m. - 5 a.m.

Union Hills Drive at Loop 101 will be restricted under the control of flaggers nightly from Friday night, Jan. 29 until Sunday morning, Jan. 31 for bridge demolition work. Left turns from northbound Loop 101 to westbound Union Hills Drive will be prohibited. Detour: Traffic on northbound Loop 101 may exit at Bell Road, then east to 83rd Avenue and then north to access westbound Union Hills Drive.

Southbound Loop 101

Saturday, Jan. 30 - Sunday, Jan. 31
10 p.m. - 5 a.m.

Southbound Loop 101 will be CLOSED at Union Hills Drive overnight from Saturday night, Jan. 30 until Sunday morning, Jan. 31 for bridge demolition work. Detour: Traffic will be detoured onto the interchange ramps.



Glendale Chocolate Affaire. Chocolate purveyors from Arizona and around the nation gather in Glendale for the award-winning Glendale Chocolate Affaire, Feb. 5-7. The festival celebrates not only chocolate, but romance and the arts as well.

The Chocolate Affaire is sponsored by Arizona's famous candy makers, Cerreta's. The candy factory will offer tours all weekend, so visitors can get a behind-the-scenes look at how the chocolatiers create everyone's favorite candy.

The festival has become the largest gathering of national romance novelists in the Southwest. This symposium of literary romantics offers fans the opportunity to get up close and personal with authors, as well as the chance to attend free writing workshops given by the experts.

Families with children will enjoy myriad activities, including hands-on arts and crafts, face-painting and a rock-climbing wall. Horse-drawn carriage rides will be available to take couples or families on a scenic, charming ride through the historic Catlin Court district.

Event hours are Friday 5 to 10 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday noon to 5 p.m. The event is located in the heart of Historic Downtown Glendale, in Murphy Park, located at 58th and Glendale avenues.

[Click here](#) for information on the Centennial-themed Plein Air Painting Art Competition being held at the event.

The Glendale Chocolate Affaire is sponsored by Cerreta's Candy Company, Kokopelli Winery, 3-TV KTVK, The Arizona Republic, YooHoo, KMLE, KOOL and JAMZ.



Lunch at the Landfill – You are Invited! City of Glendale residents are invited to a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the newly completed Glendale Gas-to-Energy facility at the Glendale Landfill. Join us on Saturday, January 30 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Glendale Municipal Landfill, 11480 W. Glendale Avenue.

Learn how the city of Glendale is working in partnership to provide an alternative source of energy in an effort to help the environment. The event will feature tours of the Landfill, Recycling and Gas-to-Energy facilities, interactive educational activities and a lunch cook-out.

ARRA Improvements for Historic Downtown Glendale. Historic downtown Glendale will get a mini facelift thanks to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), which will fund an alleyway/pedestrian improvement in front of some of the downtown's oldest businesses positioned just east of 58th and Glendale avenues.

This alley pedestrian and landscaping beautification project will include new brick pavers, landscaping, enhanced pedestrian lighting and benches.

The improvements will create access and exposure for the businesses along the alley, and an upgraded access to other busy destinations such as the Glendale Civic Center, Glendale City Hall and Festivals.

Construction is scheduled to begin in Feb. 2010 with a completion scheduled for the end of April 2010. The public is invited to an open house at 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 4 to learn more about the project. The meeting will take place at the Glendale City Hall Council Chambers, room B-3. For more information on ARRA projects in Glendale, [click here](#).

Boards and Commissions. The Glendale City Council has appointed several residents to serve on advisory boards and commissions. Congratulations and many thanks to the following Sahuaro District residents who have volunteered to serve: **Gary Sherwood** (Chair), Personnel Board and **Mounib Shaaban** (Chair), Commission on Persons with Disabilities.

Glendale's 18 boards and commissions assist the City Council in making important policy decisions that impact the community. These volunteer citizen advisory groups research, study and discuss specific Glendale projects and issues and then forward their recommendations to the City Council.

To request an application to serve on a city advisory group or for more information, call the Council Office at (623) 930-2249 or [click here](#). Board and commission members must reside in Glendale.

Glendale Public Library Celebrates Black History Month. During February, all three Glendale libraries will have special displays and items to check out on Black history, including events and people.

Two free events are scheduled:

Thursday, Feb. 4, at 7 p.m. – Blues performer **Big Pete Pearson** comes to Live at the Library and proves why he is one of the “best of the best.” Live at the Library is held at the Glendale Main Library Auditorium. Call (623) 930-3573 for more information

Tuesday, Feb. 16, at 7 p.m. – **Kitabu Reading Loom** is dedicated to reading and discussing literature by or about people of African descent. This month's book is *Same Kind of Different As Me* by Ron Hall and Denver Moore. Lives intersecting in a homeless shelter result in an unlikely friendship. Call (623) 930-3566 for more information about the book group. The group meets in the small meeting room of Glendale Main Library.

Library locations: **Glendale Main Library**, 5959 W. Brown St.; **Foothills Branch Library**, 19055 N. 57th Ave.; and **Velma Teague Branch Library**, 7010 N. 58th Ave.

Around Town

[Click here](#) for the City Council meeting schedule.

Citrus Zestival Rescheduled to this Saturday. The Glendale Parks and Recreation Department's Citrus Zestival presented by Watermill Express which was postponed due to weather has been rescheduled for Saturday, Jan. 30.

The event, celebrating Sahuaro Ranch Park's citrus heritage, will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 30 at the Sahuaro Ranch Park Historic Area, 9802 N. 59th Ave., and features citrus-themed entertainment, cooking demonstrations, a bake off, exhibits, historic home tours, activities and an opportunity to pick your own citrus from the park's grapefruit and orange trees. Admission is free.

As part of Glendale's year-long Centennial celebration, the event also features a debut of the Centennial Cookbook called A “Taste of Glendale - 100 years in the Making,” which will include more than a dozen recipes from Glendale's people and history. Cooking demonstrations will include some of the cookbook recipes and cooks!

The Glendale Ambassadors will also be providing a community breakfast from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at the venue. The breakfast is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children.

For more information about the Citrus Zestival, call (623) 930-4200.

Coffeehouse at Foothills Branch. On Feb. 3, Dan Ball will perform his original light rock songs; Steve Miller will give us rock, country and gospel; then, Sharon and Andy will bring us rock and folk. Join us at 7 p.m., at the Foothills Branch Library, 19055 N. 57th Ave. For more information, call (623) 930-3844.

Live at the Library. Big Pete Pearson, known as Arizona's “King of Blues,” brings his Chicago-style blues to Live at the Library at 7 p.m., on Thursday, February 4 in the Main Library auditorium, 5959 W. Brown St. For more information about Live at the Library, call (623) 930-3573.

Contact Councilmember Frate

Council Office: (623) 930-2249

Home Office: (602) 439-8151

E-mail: sfrate@glendaleaz.com